

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCEM-02 AID-20

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 L-03 H-03 PA-03 PRS-01 RSR-01 INT-08 /176 W

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O P 241100Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0447

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

US MISSION OECD PARIS

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1088

E.O. 11652C GDS

TAGB: ENRGKW LX

SUBJECT: GELSENBERG RECEIVES SAME DEMAND AS OIL MAJORS

1. AUGUST 23 LARG OIL MINISTER MABRUK CALLED IN SCHUBERT, GELSENBERG REP, AND MADE SAME DEMAND UPON THAT COMPANY AS RECEIVED EARLIER BY SHELL, AMOSEAS PARTNERS TEXACO AND CHEVRON, MOBIL AND ESSO, NAMELY THAT COMPANY AGREE TO 51 PER CENT NATIONALIZATION ON OASIS PATTERN OR FACE COMPLETE NATIONALIZATION. DEADLINE WAS AUGUST 24 VERSUS AUGUST 25 FOR MAJORS. SCHUBERT ARGUED THAT THIS DID NOT PROVIDE TIME TO CONSULT HIS HEADQUARTERS. ALSO POINTED OUT HIS COMPANY'S DECISION DEPENDENT ON WHAT HAPPENS TO AMOSEAS AND MOBIL, CONFIDENTIAL

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AS GELSENBERG SHARES PRODUCTION FROM MOBIL CONCESSIONS

AND OIL TRANSIT FACILITIES WITH BOTH AMOSEAS AND MOBIL. IF THESE TWO COMPANIES SHUT IN, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR GELSENBERG TO OPERATE. MABRUK FINALLY EXTENDED DEAD-LINE TO AUGUST 26.

2. ABOVE CONVEYED TO ME FIRST BY FOLMER, TEXACO REP, AND THEN MULLER-CHORUS, FRG CHARGE. FOLMER ASKED ME TO REPORT IT BECAUSE OF TWO ANGLES HE THOUGHT SIGNIFICANT: A) HIS IMPRESSION THAT GELSENBERG MAY BE PREPARED IN EFFECT TO ADOPT PARALLEL STAND WITH THE MAJORS' GROUP, EVEN THOUGH IT IS NOT A MEMBER. HE HOPES THIS CAN BE ENCOURAGED. B) A HINT DROPPED BY SCHUBERT IN TALKING TO FOLMER THAT NOW WOULD BE THE TIME FOR THE OECD TO DUST OFF ITS "10 PER CENT PLAN" FOR COPING WITH A SUPPLY SHORTAGE OF THAT MAGNITUDE. FOLMER ASSUMED THIS WOULD INCLUDE SOME RESTRICTIONS ON END USE OF OIL PRODUCTS AND HIGHER SULFUR ALLOWANCES FOR REFINERIES.

3. IN LATER TALKING TO MULLER-CHORUS I RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT SCHUBERT'S STANCE WITH MABRUK HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH SOLIDARITY WITH MAJORS BUT WAS SIMPLY STATEMENT OF BALD FACTS, NAMELY THAT GELSENBERG HEADQUARTERS DID INDEED NEED TIME TO DECIDE, AND THAT IF MAJORS WERE SHUT IN THEN ANY OPERATIONS BY GELSENBERG WERE JUST A PHYSICAL IMPOSSIBILITY. MULLER-CHORUS HAD APPARENTLY ASSUMED MAJORS WOULD BE SHUT IN. IF MAJORS WERE NATIONALIZED BUT NOT SHUT IN, HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT GELSENBERG WOULD DECIDE.

4. MULLER-CHORUS HAS OF COURSE REPORTED TO BONN, NOT ONLY THE MATERIAL IN PARA 1 ABOVE BUT SCHUBERT'S IDEA RE THE 10 PER CENT PLAN.
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